



**JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER
AND FORT POLK
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**

Press Release

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Fort Polk to receive new Garrison Command Sergeant Major

FORT POLK, La. – Command Sergeant Major Kevin D. Sharkey will assume the position of the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk Garrison Command Sergeant Major during an assumption of command ceremony at 9 a.m., Friday, June 22 at the Warrior Field, here.

Sharkey is not new to Fort Polk; he has served as the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 509th Infantry CSM since Nov. 2005.

As the Garrison CSM, Sharkey is the Garrison's senior non-commissioned officer. The Garrison team is responsible for providing the essential support services, programs, and infrastructure necessary to ensure the successful accomplishment of the JRTC and Fort Polk missions.

CSM Mathew Pelletier, Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital command sergeant major, has been the acting GCSM for the past several months.

The inclement weather location is the Bayou Theater.

The ceremony is open to the public.

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Media wishing to cover the ceremony should call Samantha Evans at (337) 531-4630.

BIO:

Command Sergeant Major Kevin D. Sharkey

Command Sergeant Major Kevin D. Sharkey enlisted in the United States Army in February 1982. He received his Basic and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Benning, Ga. During his 25 years of service, Sharkey has held numerous leadership positions including: Team Leader;

Squad Leader; Long Ranger Surveillance Team Leader, Ranger Instructor; Platoon Sergeant; First Sergeant; Battalion Operations Sergeant Major; and Battalion Command Sergeant Major.

His previous assignments include the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 509th Infantry Fort Polk, La.; 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 503rd Infantry, 173d Airborne Brigade, Vicenza, Italy; JRTC Operation Group, Fort Polk, Louisiana; 3rd and 1st Battalions 187th Infantry, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Ky; Long Range Surveillance Leaders Course, 4th Ranger Training Battalion, Ranger Training Brigade, Fort Benning Ga.; 3rd Battalion 6th Infantry, and Long Range Surveillance Detachment, 105th Military Intelligence Battalion, 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized) Fort Polk, Louisiana; and 1st Battalion 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg N.C;

Throughout his career, Sharkey has continued to further his military education and training. He has completed the Basic Airborne School, Ranger School, Jumpmaster School, Air Assault School, Long Range Surveillance Leaders Course, International Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol Close Quarter Battle and Close Quarter Battle Instructor Course, Instructor Training Course, Machinegun Leaders Course, and the Jungle Warfare School. He is also a graduate of all NCOES schools including the First Sergeant Course.

Sharkey's awards and decorations include: the Bronze Star Medal (with V device); Meritorious Service Medal (with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters); Army Commendation Medal (with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters); Army Achievement Medal; Good Conduct Medal (7th Award); National Defense Service Medal; Southwest Asia Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Star); Afghanistan Campaign Medal; Iraq Campaign Medal (with Arrow Head); Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; NCO Professional Development Ribbon (with Numeral 4); Army Service Ribbon; Overseas Ribbon; Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait); Master Parachutist Badge with Bronze Star; Air Assault Badge; Ranger Tab; Combat Infantryman Badge, and Expert Infantryman Badge.

Command Sergeant Major Sharkey is married.